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# ANNUAL REPORT

# OF

# MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

# FOR

# 1946

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# WESTBURY URBAN DISTRICT

## R E P O R T

of the Medical Officer of Health on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the Westbury Urban District for the year

## 1 9 4 6

To The Chairman and Members of the Westbury Urban District Council.

I beg to present my Annual Report for 1946 on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the District.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient Servant,

E.T. SHORLAND.

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OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL

Medical Officer of Health : : E.T.Shorland J.P., M.D., D.PH.

Surveyor & Sanitary Inspector : : L.C.Corlett. M.R.S.I. (Until September)

1. GENERAL STATISTICS. (Figures for 1945 in brackets)

Area 3,686 acres (3,686)
Population 4,691 (4,663)

Number of inhabited Houses 1,374 (1,371)

Rateable Value £25,850 (£25,131)
Product of One Penny Rate £102 (£102)

Chief occupation of the inhabitants: Clothmaking Glove making, Railway employees, Cheese Factory, Agricultural Labourers.

2. VITAL STATISTICS.

| Live Births. | Male | Female | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| Legitimate | 44 | 43 | 87 |
| Illegitimate | 2 | 4 | 6 |
| Total | 46 | 47 | 93 |

Live Birth Rate for District 19.8 (15.2)
Live Birth Rate England & Wales 19.1 (16.1)

Deaths (See also list of causes of Death)

Deaths 39 Male 20 Female Total 59.

Death Rate per 1000 population 12.6 (11.3)
Death Rate for Eng. & Wales 11.5 (11.4)

Still Births

Legitimate 2 Male 3 Female Total 5) 6
Illegitimate 1 " 0 " Total 1)

Deaths of Infants under 1 year

Legitimate 3 Male 1 Female Total 4) 4
Illegitimate 0 " 0 " Total 0)

Infant Mortality rate per 1000 live Births:

for the District 43
for England & Wales 43

3. CAUSES OF DEATH. (Registrar General's Returns)

| | Male | Female | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| Typhoid & Paratyphoid Fevers | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Cerebro Spinal Fever | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Scarlet Fever | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Whooping Cough | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Diphtheria | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Tuberculosis of Respiratory System | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Other forms of Tuberculosis | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Syphylitic Diseases | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Influenza | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Measles | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Acute Polio-myelitis & Polio Encephalitis | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Acute Infectious Encephalitis | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Cancer of buccal Cavity & Oesophagus (Male) Uterus (Female) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Cancer of Stomach & Duodenum | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Cancer of Breast | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Cancer all other sites | 2 | 4 | 6 |
| Diabetes | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Intra cranial Vascular Lesions | 6 | 1 | 7 |
| Heart Disease | 17 | 9 | 26 |
| Other Diseases of Circulatory System | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Bronchitis | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Pneumonia | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other Respiratory Disease | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Diarrhoea under 2 years | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Appendicitis | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other Digestive Disease | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Nephritis | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Puerperal & Post Abortion Sepsis | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other Maternal causes | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Premature Birth | 3 | 1 | 4 |

| | Male | Female | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| Congenital Malformation) Birth Injury, Infantile) Diseases ) | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Suicide | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Road Traffic Accident | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other violent causes | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| All other causes | 2 | 3 | 5 |
| Totals | 39 | 20 | 59 |

4. INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following Infectious Diseases were notified during 1946:-

Whooping Cough 6
Scarlet Fever 2
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis 1 (died)
Puerperal Pyrexia 1
Ophthalmic Nematomia 1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis 5
Surgical Tuberculosis 1

Diphtheria Immunisation was carried out at the Schools by Assistant County Medical Officers under the County Council Scheme.

5. Nursing, Hospitals, Clinics etc.

There is one Certified Midwife who also undertakes General Nursing.

HOSPITALS.

Westbury & District Hospital 20 beds.
Prideaux Voluntary " 8 beds 3 cots.
Isolation (Trowbridge & District)
Smallpox (Ogbourne St. George)
Tuberculosis at Harnwood Hospital, Tower House E.M.S. & the Isolation Hospital Ward all at Salisbury.
Winsley Sanatorium.

Surgical Tuberculosis at Bath.

CLINICS. The following Clinics serve the District:-

(1) Antenatal (Specialist) at Trowbridge: Referred by Doctor or Midwife: County Council Clinic.
(2) Infant Welfare at Westbury, Laverton Institute. Nursing Association.
(3) Ear, Nose & Throat, Trowbridge. By invitation from County Council.
(4) Eye at Trowbridge. By invitation from C.C.
(5) Venereal Diseases at Trowbridge. County C.
(6) Tuberculosis at Trowbridge. Referred by own Doctor. County Council.
(7) Cancer at Bristol and Bath.
(8) Orthopaedic at Trowbridge by invitation from County Council.

The Infant Welfare Clinic was started early in the year at the Laverton Institute, but was later moved to the Congregational Chapel, Warminster Road. Attendance was good. The Clinic is open on the 1st. and 3rd. Mondays of every month at 2.0.p.m.

LABORATORY.

Water samples and specimens for Bacteriological and Pathological Examination are sent to the Laboratory, Salisbury Infirmary.

AMBULANCES.

Non-infectious, Accidents:- Westbury Hosp. Ambulance, also B.R.C.S. at Trowbridge & Warminster.

Infectious Diseases:- Trowbridge Isolation Hospital Ambulance.

6. HOUSING. A start was made with building new Council Houses on the site at Oldfield Road. It is proposed to erect 56 houses here.

The Westbury Leigh Site (8 houses proposed) was not commenced by the end of the year.

7. BILLETING.

There were 85 evacuees remaining in Westbury in May 1946.

The Evacuation Scheme was terminated and the post of Billeting Officer was ended on 30th. June.

This Officer's duties were shared between the Urban Districts of Westbury & Warminster and also the Warminster and Westbury Rural District.

8. WATER SUPPLY.

The main supply is from the well and Borehole (1945) at Wellhead. The water is chlorinated and supplies also Dilton Marsh and some military camps in the area. Analysts reports received quarterly were excellent and showed no evidence of pollution.

A subsiduary supply is obtained from the borehole at Bratton Road Pumping Station. There was some contamination of this supply in September but it was non-faecal, and thought to be due to extra pumping from this source.

9. SEWERAGE.

The Regional Scheme put forward by the Rural District Council was considered by the Council. It was thought that the Urban District Works might take the sewage from Upton Scudamore (by gravitation) and from Dilton Marsh by pumping at Westbury Leigh.

A satisfactory report on the effluent in August was received. The Surveyor reported that the sludge beds were overloaded and that two more beds would be necessary.

10. SANITARY INSPECTIONS.

An analysis of the sanitary work during the year is appended.

11. RATS AND MICE.

The Rodent Officer, whose services are

hared with the Warminster Urban District and
he Warminster & Westbury Rural District,
isited factories and premises in the district.
atisfactory results were obtained from baiting
nd trapping.

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## SANITARY INSPECTIONS.

### INSPECTIONS OF DWELLING HOUSES.

| | |
|---|---|
| (a) No. of houses inspected for defects (Public Health & Housing Acts) | 35 |
| (b) No. of Inspections for this purpose | 50 |
| (c) No. of houses inspected under Housing (Consolidated) Regulations 1925 | 15 |
| (d) No. of Inspections for this purpose | 15 |
| (e) Dwelling Houses found unfit for habitation | 0 |
| (f) Dwelling Houses found to be fit in all respects | 9 |

### DEFECTS.

| | |
|---|---|
| No. of houses rendered fit by Informal action | 6 |
| Notices served under Housing Acts | 0 |
| No. rendered fit by Formal action | 0 |

### STATUTORY PROCEEDINGS.

| | |
|---|---|
| Notices served under Public Health Acts for Dwelling Houses | 0 |
| No. rendered fit by Informal action | 0 |

| | |
|---|---|
| DEMOLITION ORDERS. | 0 |
| CLOSING ORDERS. | 0 |
| HOUSING ACT 1925. SECTION 3. | 0 |

7. HOUSING ACT 1925 Sec. 11, 14 & 15.

Determination of Closing Order. 1

8. INSPECTION OF FACTORIES & WORKSHOPS.

| | Inspections | Written Notices | Prosecution |
|---|---|---|---|
| Factories | 13 | 0 | 0 |
| Workshops | 15 | 0 | 0 |
| Workplaces | - | - | - |

9. DEFECTS IN FACTORIES ETC.

| | Found | Remedied | Referred to H.M. Inspector | Prosecution |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sanitary Accommodation | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |

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